

# SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress  
1st Session

Vote No. 527

October 27, 1995, 12:22 p.m.  
Page S-15999 Temp. Record

## BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION/Medicare Balance Billing

**SUBJECT:**      **Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995 . . . S. 1357. Domenici motion to table the Kennedy amendment No. 2996.**

### ACTION: MOTION TO TABLE AGREED TO, 52-47

**SYNOPSIS:**      As reported, S. 1357, the Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995, will result in a balanced budget in seven years, as scored by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). The bill will also provide a \$245 billion middle-class tax cut, \$141.4 billion of which will be to provide a \$500 per child tax credit.

**The Kennedy amendment** would add that an individual who was enrolled in a Medicare Choice plan would not be liable for a provider's charges for items or services furnished under the plan if those charges were in excess of the copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles required by such plan.

The amendment was offered after all debate time had expired. However, by unanimous consent, 1 minute of debate was permitted on the amendment. Following debate, Senator Domenici moved to table the Kennedy amendment. Generally, those favoring the motion to table opposed the amendment; those opposing the motion to table favored the amendment.

**Those favoring** the motion to table contended:

Medicare recipients who wish to remain in the traditional Medicare program, which does not allow balance billing, may remain. Those recipients who wish to enroll in Medicare Choice plans that offer benefits such as dental care, eyeglasses, prescription drug coverage, or other benefits that are not available from the traditional program, may enroll. If a program offers very generous benefits, and also has balance billing for some benefits in order to make it possible to offer them, senior citizens should have the choice of whether or not they want to enroll. The Federal Government should not step in with price controls to limit health care options for Medicare recipients. We therefore support the motion to table.

(See other side)

YEAS (52)			NAYS (47)			NOT VOTING (0)	
Republicans (52 or 98%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)		Republicans (1 or 2%)	Democrats (46 or 100%)		Republicans (0)	Democrats (0)
Abraham	Hutchison		Cohen	Akaka	Inouye		
Ashcroft	Inhofe			Baucus	Johnston		
Bennett	Jeffords			Biden	Kennedy		
Bond	Kassebaum			Bingaman	Kerrey		
Brown	Kempthorne			Boxer	Kerry		
Burns	Kyl			Bradley	Kohl		
Campbell	Lott			Breaux	Lautenberg		
Chafee	Lugar			Bryan	Leahy		
Coats	Mack			Bumpers	Levin		
Cochran	McCain			Byrd	Lieberman		
Coverdell	McConnell			Conrad	Mikulski		
Craig	Murkowski			Daschle	Moseley-Braun		
D'Amato	Nickles			Dodd	Moynihan		
DeWine	Pressler			Dorgan	Murray		
Dole	Roth			Exon	Nunn		
Domenici	Santorum			Feingold	Pell		
Faircloth	Shelby			Feinstein	Pryor		
Frist	Simpson			Ford	Reid		
Gorton	Smith			Glenn	Robb		
Gramm	Snowe			Graham	Rockefeller		
Grams	Specter			Harkin	Sarbanes		
Grassley	Stevens			Heflin	Simon		
Gregg	Thomas			Hollings	Wellstone		
Hatch	Thompson						
Hatfield	Thurmond						
Helms	Warner						

#### EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

#### SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

**Those opposing** the motion to table contended:

Senior citizens who enroll in Medicare Choice plans need to have Federal Government protection from being overcharged. Under the current Medicare Program, they already are. The Kennedy amendment would make sure that they will also be protected in the future. We therefore urge our colleagues to vote against the motion to table this amendment.